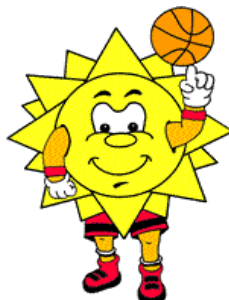


2017-2018 Winter Youth Basketball Rules



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Mecklenburg County Youth Sports Philosophy: *To provide an environment for children to learn the fundamentals of sport while emphasizing the importance of teamwork, sportsmanship, physical fitness and fair play.*

I. LEAGUE INFORMATION

- A. GENERAL INFORMATION** - The program shall be known as the Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department's Youth Winter Basketball Leagues.

The following leagues will be offered:

1. **Girl's** – For female participants only (Ages 10-12 yrs., play-up at 9 with permission)
2. **Coed** – Available to both male and female participants

NOTE: Age Divisions offered will include 3-5 (Start Smart – not league play), 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16 and 17-18 years of age. Leagues will be geographically divided as North, Central or South within the County. **Score is not kept in the 5-6 Instructional and 7-8 Transitional age divisions.**

- B. REGISTRATION/LEAGUE INFORMATION** - Registration will be held in October and will run for a minimum of four weeks. Participants may register at any recreation center or online at www.parkandrec.com. Questions may be directed to the Revolution Park Sports Academy at (980) 314-1116 or emailed to the Youth Sports Development team at YouthSports@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

II. RULES

- A. National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)** - All games will be governed by the **National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Rules** and the Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department's **local rule modifications**, as mentioned below. These rules must be strictly adhered to by all officials, coaches, participants, parents and spectators. The Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department reserves the right to modify league play rules to accommodate and or enhance the overall experience, safety and/or service being provided. For more information about the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Basketball Rules please visit their website at <http://www.nfhs.org/>.

B. 5-6 AGE INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION MODIFICATIONS

1. **COURT** - The court sizes may vary from ½ to ¾ court size depending on the facility. The modified **goal height** required for the 6U age division is a maximum of 8 feet. **Free throws** will be taken no more than 8 feet from the face of the backboard (players are allowed to move forward if needed). Game sites should pre-measure and mark temporary free throw lines with flooring tape.
2. **BALL** - The official ball shall be any top-grade basketball; junior size, with a circumference of 27.5 inches.
3. **CLOCK** - Each game shall consist of four, 8-minute quarters, governed by a running clock, stopping only for injury or timeouts. The halftime period will be 3 minutes. The last minute of the game will be governed by an official clock, stopping on all violations, fouls, injury and timeouts.
4. **DEFENSE** – A mandatory zone defense must be fielded at all times (man to man coverage is prohibited). Defenses must set up behind the top of the key extended (which is defined by the top center point on the three-point arch extended from east to west on the court.) No full court pressing at any time. **No penalty – teaching moments.**
5. **STEALING** – Stealing is prohibited. Players may pursue loose balls or intercept passes but may not dispossess a player who is clearly in possession (holding or



dribbling the ball). **No penalty – teaching moments.**

6. **OFFICIATING** – Officials will call fouls for instructional purposes only, stopping play to notify the player in violation and assist the head coach in implementing a **teaching moment**. Free throws will be awarded for fouls committed during the act of shooting only. Violations such as traveling and double dribbling will be called “loosely” following verbal cues to correct. As the season progresses, officials are encouraged to become less tolerant of blatant violations.
NOTE: The head coach is allowed to be on the court during game play providing instruction and direct supervision. All other coaches should remain within the bench area.
7. **Score** – Score is not kept in this division.

C. 7-8 AGE TRANSITIONAL DIVISION MODIFICATIONS

1. **COURT** - The regulation size court shall be used with exception of the **free throw line**, which shall be 12 feet from the face of the backboard. The modified **goal height** required for the 7-8 age group is a maximum of 9 feet.
NOTE: A violation **will not** occur if a shooter stands on or shoots from behind and crosses the regulation 15 foot line. A violation on the shooter will only occur if he or she crosses the 12 foot line.
2. **BALL** - The official ball shall be any top-grade basketball; women's approved ball, with a circumference of 28.5 inches.
3. **CLOCK** - Each game shall consist of four, 8-minute quarters, governed by a running clock, stopping only for foul shots, injury and timeouts. The last 2 minutes of the game will be governed by an official clock, stopping on all violations, injury, fouls and timeouts.
4. **DEFENSE** - Defenses must set up behind the top of the key extended (which is defined by the top center point on the three point arch extended from east to west on the court.) Once the player and ball cross the half court line, the defense may engage. **Penalty – 1 warning, then tech fouls (3 maximum, then inbound the ball to keep game flow).** Full court pressing will be allowed only in the last 2 minutes of the 4th quarter. **Penalty – 1 warning, then tech fouls.**
5. **OFFICIATING** - Officials will call fouls for instructional purposes only, stopping play to notify the player in violation and assist the head coach in implementing a **teaching moment**. Free throws will be awarded for fouls committed during the act of shooting only. All coaches should remain within the bench area.
6. **SCORE** – Score is not kept in this division (*new in 2016*).

D. 9-10 AGE RECREATION DIVISION MODIFICATIONS

1. **COURT** - The regulation court shall be used with exception of the **free throw line**, which shall be 12 feet from the face of the backboard.
NOTE: A violation **will not** occur if a shooter stands on or shoots from behind and crosses the regulation 15 foot line. A violation will occur on the shooter if he/she crosses the 12 foot line.
2. **BALL** - The official ball shall be any top-grade basketball; women's approved ball, with a circumference of 28.5 inches.
3. **CLOCK** - Each game shall consist of four, 8-minute quarters, governed by a



running clock, stopping only for foul shots, injury and timeouts. The last 2 minutes of the game will be governed by an official clock, stopping on all violations, injury, fouls and timeouts.

Exception: A 20+ point lead, the clock will run continuous except for injury, timeouts or until the lead is reduced to less than 20 points.

Exception: A 30+ lead, no more scores will be put on the clock, but staff will keep the scores in the scorebook, if score gets below 20 points, scores go back on the clock.

4. **DEFENSE** - Defenses must set up behind the top of the key extended (which is defined by the top center point on the three point arch extended from east to west on the court.) Once the player and ball cross the half court line, the defense may engage. Full court pressing will be allowed only in the last 2 minutes of the 4th quarter and also in any overtime period.

Exception: A team leading by 20+ points may not press in the last 2 minutes of the 4th quarter.

Penalty: A warning will be issued on the first violation. A technical foul will be assessed each time the violation occurs thereafter.

E. GIRLS 10-12 AGE RECREATION DIVISION MODIFICATIONS

1. **COURT** - The regulation court shall be used with exception of the **free throw line**, which shall be 12 feet from the face of the backboard.

NOTE: A violation **will not** occur if a shooter stands on or shoots from behind and crosses the regulation 15 foot line. A violation will occur on the shooter if he/she crosses the 12 foot line.

2. **BALL** - The official ball shall be any top-grade basketball; women's approved ball, with a circumference of 28.5 inches.
3. **CLOCK** - Each game shall consist of four, 8-minute quarters, governed by a running clock, stopping only for foul shots, injury and timeouts. The last 2 minutes of the game will be governed by an official clock, stopping on all violations, injury, fouls and timeouts.

Exception: A 20+ point lead, the clock will run continuous except for injury, timeouts or until the lead is reduced to less than 20 points.

Exception: A 30+ lead, no more scores will be put on the clock, but staff will keep the scores in the scorebook, if score gets below 20 points, scores go back on the clock.

4. **DEFENSE** - Defenses must set up behind the top of the key extended (which is defined by the top center point on the three point arch extended from east to west on the court.) Once the player and ball cross the half court line, the defense may engage. Full court pressing will be allowed only in the last 2 minutes of the 4th quarter and also in any overtime period.

Exception: A team leading by 20+ points may not press in the last 2 minutes of the 4th quarter.

Penalty: A warning will be issued on the first violation. A technical foul will be assessed each time the violation occurs thereafter.

F. 11-12 AGE RECREATION DIVISION MODIFICATIONS

1. **COURT** - The regulation court shall be used with exception of the **free throw line**, which shall be 12 feet from the face of the backboard.

NOTE: A violation **will not** occur if a shooter stands on or shoots from behind and



crosses the regulation 15 foot line. A violation on the shooter will only occur if he/she crosses the 12 foot line.

2. **BALL** - The official ball shall be any top-grade basketball; women's approved ball, with a circumference of 28.5 inches.
3. **CLOCK** - Each game shall consist of four, 8-minute quarters, governed by a running clock, stopping only for foul shots, injury and timeouts. The last two (2) minutes of the game will be governed by an official clock, stopping on all violations, injury, fouls and timeouts.

Exception: A 20+ point lead, the clock will run continuous except for injury, timeouts or until the lead is reduced to less than 20 points.

Exception: A 30+ lead, no more scores will be put on the clock, but staff will keep the scores in the scorebook, if score gets below 20 points, scores go back on the clock.

4. **DEFENSE** - Defenses must set up behind the top of the key extended (which is defined by the top center point on the three point arch extended from east to west on the court.) Once the player and ball cross the half court line, the defense may engage. Full court pressing will be allowed only in the last 2 minutes of the 4th quarter and also in any overtime period.

Exception: A team leading by 20+ points may not press in the last 2 minutes of the 4th quarter.

Penalty: A warning will be issued on the first violation. A technical foul will be assessed each time the violation occurs thereafter.

G. 13-14, 15-16 & 17-18 AGE RECREATION DIVISION MODIFICATIONS

1. **COURT** – The regulation court size and goal height shall be used.
2. **BALL** - The official ball shall be any top-grade basketball; men's approved ball, circumference 29.5 inches.
3. **CLOCK** - Each game shall consist of four, 8-minute quarters, governed by a running clock, stopping only for foul shots, injury and timeouts. The last 2 minutes of the game will be governed by an official clock, stopping on all violations, injury, fouls and timeouts.

Exception: A 20+ point lead, the clock will run continuous except for injury, timeouts or until the lead is reduced to less than 20 points.

Exception: A 30+ lead, no more scores will be put on the clock, but staff will keep the scores in the scorebook, if score gets below 20 points, scores go back on the clock.

4. **DEFENSE** – Pressing defense will be allowed the entire game.
Exception: A 20+ point lead, the team leading may not press. A warning will be issued on the first violation. A technical foul will be called each time the violation occurs thereafter.

III. LOCAL RULES AND MODIFICATIONS

- A. VOLUNTEER COACHES** – It is **required** that all Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department Volunteers complete the online volunteer application process. **ONLY** approved volunteers may be appointed as coaches. Prior to approval, volunteers may not interact with program participants in the program setting which includes program related practices, games, activities or events. All head coaches are required to complete NYSCA Certification



Training as Youth Sports Coaches through the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS)
<http://www.nays.org/Coaches/>.

- B. BENCH/SIDELINE PERSONNEL** – A maximum of three bench personnel will be permitted in the bench area. This may include coaches and/or statistician/manager. All other team personnel must remain inside the designated spectator areas. Only Mecklenburg County approved volunteers may reside in the bench or player area. Each approved volunteer must be issued an ID Badge by his or her respective center staff.
Exception: Bench personnel in the 5-6 and 7-8 age divisions are prohibited from keeping/utilizing a scorebook for any purpose. *(New in 2016)*
- C. "MUST PLAY" RULE** – Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department encourages maximum participation for all participants. **ALL TEAMS** are required to abide by the "MUST PLAY" Rule. Coaches in the 5-6 Instructional and 7-8 Transitional divisions are expected to play all players two full quarters (except for injury). *(New in 2016)* **In these 5-6 Instructional and 7-8 Transitional age division, coaches are required to distribute playing time as evenly as possible. Substitutions are not restricted and all players must play in each half**

All coaches in the 9-10 and up and Girls Only 10-12 years Recreation divisions must play ALL players a minimum of 1 full quarter, during the 1st half with no substitutions permitted (except for injury) in the first or second quarter. **Coaches with 6-10 players must play 5 in the entire first quarter and the remaining players in the second quarter.** If a team has less than ten players, the opposing coach reserves the right to select the opposing team's players (from the first quarter) he/she wishes to return to play in the second quarter. Coaches may only select the players that will accompany the mandatory 2nd quarter players. Coaches choosing to exercise their right to select remaining players must notify the scorer's table and officials prior to the start of the 2nd quarter.

Any Player that arrives after the start of the game must enter and play the next full quarter. If the player arrives during the 4th quarter, he/she must play the remainder of the 4th quarter. *Officials will assist with the enforcement of the must play rules if and when alerted by scorer keepers/staff.

Penalty: A Technical foul will be charged to the team when adding a name to the team roster in the scorebook once the game has started. Maximum one foul per team regardless of the number of infractions. Penalized at the time it occurs.

- D. TIME OUTS** - Each team in the Recreation divisions will receive 3 full (1-minute) timeouts and 2 half (30-second) timeouts per regulation game. Ages 9+ will receive 1 additional full (1-minute) timeout during each overtime period if necessary. A player/head coach may orally or visually request a timeout.
- Exception:** The 5-6 and 7-8 divisions will be granted 3 full 1-minute time outs per game.
- E. WARM UP** – On court warm up time will not be granted unless there is a forfeit or games end early providing an open court prior to tip off. Games will begin promptly at their scheduled time.
- F. OVERTIME** - In case of a TIE in regulation games, the winner will be determined by a 2-minute overtime period, to be repeated if necessary. An official clock, stopping on all whistled violations, held ball situations, injury, fouls and timeouts, will govern all overtime periods.

Exception: The 5-6 and 7-8 age division does not keep score so no overtime period applies.



- G. GAME DAYS / EVENINGS** - Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department reserves the right to schedule games when needed as a result of cancellations due to inclement weather or to accommodate playoff games/tournament play. Teams should be aware that playing games on weekday evenings or weekend mornings and/or evenings is always a possibility.
- H. SCOREKEEPER** - The Scorekeeper at the scorer's table will be the official scorer at all times- NO EXCEPTIONS.
- I. CLOCK OPERATION** - Park and Recreation staff will oversee the official game start time and clock operation. All game officials must check with staff to verify time before decisions are made in regards to forfeits or grace periods.
- J. GRACE PERIODS** - There is a 10 minute grace period that will be allowed for the first scheduled game of the day only. ALL other games will begin promptly at game time.
- K. INCLEMENT WEATHER HOTLINE** - In case of INCLEMENT WEATHER, please call (704) 432-3834 after 4:00pm-weekdays & after 8am on weekends for an update on game conditions and status. Secondly, for additional information, you may call your respective Recreation Center.
- L. ADA COMPLIANCE** - In order to comply with the American Disabilities Act, these rules may be adapted in order for participation. An "ADA Exception Form" will be submitted prior to beginning of play, and approved by Karla Gray, Therapeutics Division Director, and the Youth Sports and Fitness staff, and kept on file to verify changes of rules.

IV. TEAM RULES

- A. ROSTERS-** A player must be listed on an official roster. Official rosters for ages 5-14 must be submitted to the Youth Sports Staff **Monday, November 27, 2017**; for ages 18U & 16U, official rosters are due on **Friday, December 29, 2017**. Official Rosters are locked and frozen once the 1st game of the pre-season is underway. Roster limits are as follows:
 - **INSTRUCTIONAL LEAGUE TEAMS (AGES 5-6) MIN 8, MAX 12**
 - **TRANSITIONAL & ALL RECREATION LEAGUE TEAMS (AGES 7-8 & 9-18) MIN 8, MAX 10**
- B. TEAM PHOTO ID SHEET** - All teams must submit an official Team Photo ID sheet. The Photo ID sheet must be complete, verified and signed by the Facility Manager of that center or the Athletic Director of the independent organization prior to playing the 1st game of the pre-season. Date of birth and a photograph must be provided for every player. Each team manager/coach must have a copy of their team photo ID sheet at each game & ensure that the Official Scorer has verified them prior to game time. Games whereby teams are unable to provide a copy of their Photo ID Sheet prior to games end are subject to forfeit.
***Exception: 5-6 and 7-8 Age Divisions**
- C. PROOF OF AGE** – Recreation Center staff should confirm the age of all participants by verifying only valid birth certificates or other approved legal documents. Players with driver's licenses may use them. Any player not having approved proof of age will be ineligible.
- D. UNIFORMS** - During competition, all teams are required to wear uniforms consisting of the same or similar colored shirts/jerseys, preferably, with legal basketball numbers on both the front and back. Players or teams failing to comply with this rule should be reported to the respective Focus Team Representative and Youth Athletics staff. Player may still play with a pinnie jersey with legal basketball numbers. Temporary modifications are prohibited: No taped-on or written-on numbers.
- E. FORFEITS** – In the 5-6 and 7-8 age divisions, each team must be ready to play with four players. Teams are encouraged to 'loan' a player or two to the team that is short players



and the play. There are no forfeits in these two divisions.

In the 9-18 Recreation age divisions, each team must be ready to play with a minimum of 4 players on the court at their scheduled game time. The game may begin with 4 vs. 5 players. In the event a team is unable to produce 4 players to begin the game, the result is a forfeit by that team. In the event both teams are unable to produce the required amount of players to begin the game, then both teams will receive a forfeit and a loss will be applied to both teams record for the purposes of the league standings. Teams must produce their 5th player by the start of the 3rd quarter or the result of the game is a forfeit **(New in 2017)**. If a team forfeits three times in a season, it will be subject to dismissal from the league, pending review of the incidents by the Youth Sports & Fitness Office and Focus Team. Officials are not permitted to officiate unofficial forfeited game scrimmages. Officials will deliberate with Park and Recreation Staff on site prior to issuing forfeits. ***The Park and Recreation staff reserves the right to overrule an official's decision regarding a forfeit with regard to extenuating circumstances.**

- F. **DISSENT** - If a team, coach or participant attempt to delay, hinder or prevent the start of or completion of a game in protest, the team, coach or participant may be suspended for 1 year from the date of the infraction.

V. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A. **INELIGIBLE PLAYERS** - Participants may be listed on one roster only. Any player listed on multiple rosters or participating on multiple teams will be found to be ineligible immediately. Any and all teams which the ineligible player is found to be listed on the roster of will be subject to forcible forfeit of all games found in violation. An ineligible player will be subject to suspension, pending review of incident. Any team manager/ coach knowingly or willingly playing a suspended or ineligible player will be suspended for one calendar year or more, from all Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation youth sports activities and events.
- B. **SCOREBOOK** - Coaches are to make sure they check the scorebook before each game to verify that their players are listed for the game. **A name cannot be entered into the scorebook, unless the player is present.** Coaches are required to provide both first and last names for players – NO NICKNAMES.

VI. AGE CLASSIFICATION

- A. **CUT OFF DATE** - Age Classifications are determined by the participant's calculated age as of **January 1st 2018**.
- B. **PLAY UP POLICY** – Participants registering in Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department Youth Sport Programs are strongly recommended to register within their corresponding pre-determined age group according to their chronological age as determined by the "cut off" date. In the event that a parent or guardian feels that their child would benefit greatly from participating in a higher age division, which is not recommended, the department acknowledges the request and will accommodate the parent/guardian by approving the "Play Up" request for participants moving up by **1 year of age only**. **A Play Up Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk Agreement must be signed by a parent/guardian and stored on file at the respective recreation center, as well as a copy submitted to the Youth Sports Staff at the beginning of league play.**

VII. TOURNAMENT PLAY

- A. COUNTYWIDE** – A sliding scale will be used to select teams for the Countywide Tournament (see table below).

# TEAMS IN REGULAR SEASON LEAGUE	# TEAMS ADVANCING TO COUNTYWIDE TOURNAMENT
9-10 TEAMS	TOP 6
7-8 TEAMS	TOP 5
5-6 TEAMS	TOP 4
4 TEAMS	TOP 3

The top teams in each league with the best regular season record will advance to the countywide tournament. Seeding will be determined by the regular season standings. If the event of a tie between 2 or more teams, tournament eligibility seedings will be determined by the following tie-breakers:

- 1) Head to head record
- 2) Fewest defensive points (allowed) against each other
- 3) Fewest total defensive points (allowed) in the regular season
- 4) Fewest number of games forfeited
- 5) Coin toss

The Focus Team and Youth Sports Development Teams will set up the Countywide Tournament Brackets.

- B. SWAC** – Teams in eligible age divisions will have the opportunity to participate in the State-Wide Activities Committees' (SWAC) State RECREATIONAL & OPEN tournaments, respectively. NOTE: TEAMS THAT REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE WILL FUND THE COST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SWAC TOURNAMENTS. FUNDING INCLUDES: TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION, TRAVEL, HOTEL and FOOD.
<http://www.ncrpa.net>

VIII. PROTESTS

- A. PROTESTS - PROTESTS WILL NOT BE HONORED**
- 1) Discrepancies about participant age should be resolved by staff on site utilizing the Photo ID Sheet provided.
- B. CONFLICT RESOLUTION / CHAIN OF COMMAND** - If a conflict arises and no decision is rendered on site, then a Basketball Focus Team member must be contacted to make the final decision.
- 1) Referees/Umpires/Officials govern play on the court/field
 - 2) Staff on site will provide onsite administrative checkpoints for rule modifications, paperwork and scorekeeping.
 - 3) A Focus Team representative oversees game day operations and address issues/concerns.
 - 4) Sports and Fitness – Youth Sports Staff oversees league administration.

IX. CODE OF CONDUCT

*MCPRD POSSESSES A **ZERO TOLERANCE** POLICY FOR COACHES, PARTICIPANTS, PARENTS AND SPECTATORS IN REGARDS TO INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT AND RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ASSESS SUSPENSIONS AND/OR PROHIBIT ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION AT THEIR DISCRETION IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN SAFETY, APPROPRIATE CONDUCT AND OVERALL PROGRAM INTEGRITY. EACH COACH, PARTICIPANT, PARENT AND SPECTATOR WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE FOLLOWING CONDUCT STANDARDS. PLEASE REFER TO THE [SUSPENSION POLICY FOR YOUTH SPORTS](#) FOR A COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENT.

A. COACHING STAFF:

1. Head Coaches are RESPONSIBLE for the eligibility of all players, as well as the conduct of all participants, parents, and spectators.
2. Assistant Coaches must remain seated at all times during the game. Failure to comply with this rule may result in a technical foul and will also result in the Head Coach being restricted to his/her bench and seated for the remainder of the game.

B. COMMUNICATION WITH OFFICIALS:

Questioning/Arguing judgment calls made by officials is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED.*

1. ONLY HEAD COACHES will be permitted to consult with the OFFICIAL and this MUST ONLY BE DONE IN A SPORTSMANLIKE MANNER. It is in the best interest of head coaches to approach officials in a courteous manner and in the presence of staff whenever possible.
2. Arguing/disputing judgment calls is strictly prohibited and will be viewed as verbal abuse. Coaches, participants and/or spectators are not permitted to badger, criticize, harass or mock officials.

Penalty: EJECTION - Immediate removal from the facility and will receive a minimum 2 game suspension up to an indefinite suspension from all Mecklenburg County youth sports programs. **Ejected person must leave the property immediately.**

C. BULLYING/INTIMIDATION:

1. Coaches, participants, parents and spectators must not threaten, verbally abuse or make physical contact of an aggressive nature with any other coaches, participants, parents, spectators, Park and Recreation staff or officials.

Penalty: EJECTION - Immediate removal from the facility and will receive a minimum 2 game suspension up to an indefinite suspension from all Mecklenburg County youth sports programs. **Ejected person must leave the property immediately.**

D. SPORTSMANSHIP/INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR:

1. Any and all team-affiliated persons (coaches, participants, parents and spectators) must conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner when involved in any Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department's youth athletic programs. This rule applies to conduct on all MECKLENBURG COUNTY PARK PROPERTY before, during, and after scheduled events.

Penalty: EJECTION - Immediate removal from the facility and will receive a minimum 2 game suspension up to an indefinite suspension from all Mecklenburg County youth sports programs. **Ejected person must leave the property immediately.**

NOTE: If spectators and/or affiliated persons' conduct become overly unruly & unsportsmanlike during the course of the game, the MCPRD staff & game officials reserve the authority to empty the facility & allow only coaches & players to remain, in the effort to finish game play.

E. ALCOHOL/ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES:

1. The possession of, use of and/or participation while under the influence of alcohol or any other illegal substance is strictly prohibited.

Penalty: EJECTION – Immediate removal from the facility & indefinitely suspended. **Ejected**

person must leave the property immediately.

F. EJECTIONS:

Any coaches, participants or spectators who are ejected will be automatically ineligible to coach, participate and/or spectate until such time that they are notified by the Youth Sports Development Staff (See *G. Incident Procedures* below)

G. INCIDENT PROCEDURES:

Individuals reported to be ejected or in violation of the Code of Conduct (See F. Ejections above) will be notified and asked to provide a written statement regarding the details of the incident in question, as well as their involvement or participation in said incident by 5:00pm of the following Tuesday to a Youth Sports Development Team staff member at YouthSports@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov. Failure to provide a written statement is viewed as an admission of guilt and will be grounds for suspension.

X. SUSPENSIONS

- A.** Any Coaches, Participants or Spectators who are suspended from league play will be ineligible to coach, participate and/or spectate for the duration of their suspension term. This includes any and all program related activities and events.
- B.** Any violation while under suspension will be treated as a 2nd offense and all penalties will apply, including extending the existing suspension.
- C.** Any suspension occurring with less than two games remaining in regular season will result in suspension from the remaining regular season games, as well as any and all upcoming post-season tournament games.
- D.** Any suspension for a term of 1 year or more will require a written request for reinstatement to be submitted following the suspension term. The request may be emailed to YouthSports@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov or **mailed to Youth Sports Development, 1225 Remount Rd., Charlotte, NC 28208**. The Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department reserves the right to deny reinstatement and/or extend any and all suspensions.

PLEASE REFER TO THE [SUSPENSION POLICY](#) FOR YOUTH SPORTS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENT.

For more information about the youth sports programs in Mecklenburg County, please contact your nearest Recreation Center or contact Revolution Park Sports Academy at (980) 314-1116 or email YouthSports@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov.

Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Department encourages and promotes inclusive leisure experiences in all of our programs, activities and sports. Inclusive leisure experiences encourage and enhance opportunities for people of varying abilities to participate and interact in life's activities together with dignity. It also provides an environment that promotes and fosters physical, social and psychological inclusion of people with diverse experiences and skill levels. Inclusion enhances individuals' potential for full and active participation in leisure activities and experiences.